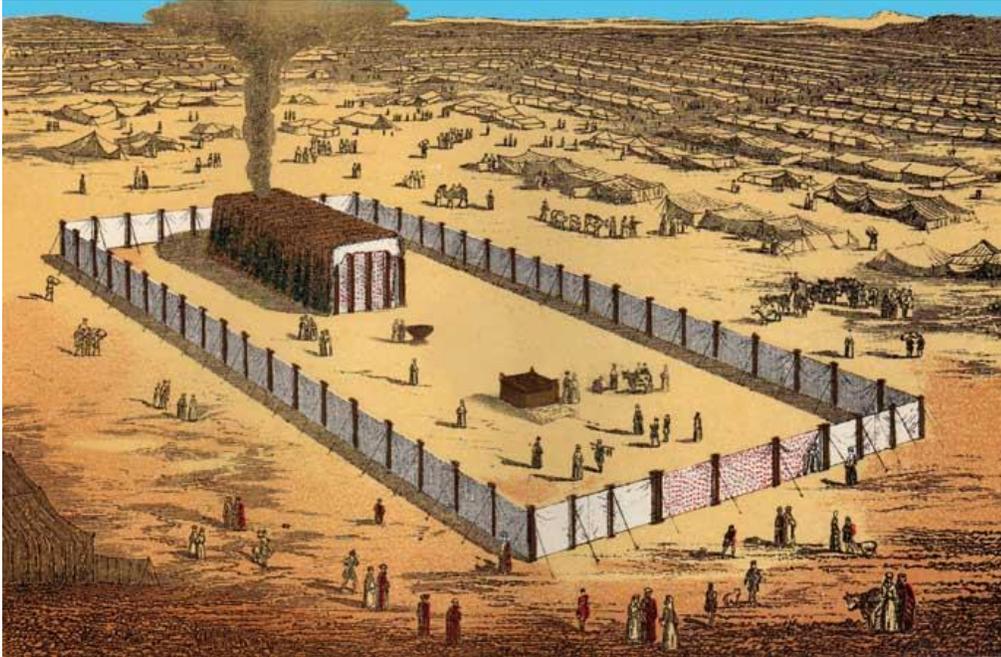


THE SANCTUARY

LESSON #9



THE COURT

PART ONE

IT'S GATE

INTRODUCTION

It is surprising that the inspired parables of the Old Testament about the sanctuary have been so neglected by serious Bible students of today. The types used in the sanctuary are in fact a series of picture graphs given directly from the hand of God to make simple the plan of salvation, not only revealing what takes place on earth, but also what takes place in the heavenly, and also the soul temples. Especially since 1844. Some of these vast and infinite subjects are all but impossible to understand, as God would have them understood except through the picture revelations of the sanctuary and its services.

For most, the study of the sanctuary requires more spiritual intelligence than many Christians can bring to it. We know so little of the things of God and, what is worse, we do not know our ignorance, "our infancy in Christ and our lack of growth hinder our understanding" and we excuse ourselves under the plea that these things are not important or at least not essential. A dear lady once said, concerning the sanctuary that, "it will be impossible for them (church members) to exercise the faith which is essential at this time, or to occupy the position which God designs them to fill. Ever individual has ... a case pending at the bar of God. Each must meet the great Judge face to face. How important, then, that every mind contemplate

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often the solemn scene when the Judgment shall sit and the books shall be opened, when with Daniel, every individual must stand in his lot, at the end of days! The sanctuary in heaven is the very center of Christ's work in behalf of man. **It opens to view the plan of redemption, bringing us down to the very close of time.** And reveals the triumphant issues of the contest between righteousness and sin. It is of the utmost importance that **all** should **thoroughly investigate** these subjects. ... The intercession of Christ in man's behalf in the sanctuary above is as essential to the plan of salvation as was His death upon the cross. By His death He began that work which after His resurrection He ascended to complete in heaven. **We must by faith enter within the veil: whither the forerunner is for us entered. Heb. 6: 20.** There the light from the cross of Calvary is reflected. There we may gain a clearer insight into the mysteries of redemption. **Jesus has opened the way to the Father's throne,** and through His mediation the sincere desire of all who come to Him in faith may be presented before God." **THE GREAT CONTROVERSY PP.488, 489.** (Emphasis supplied). Let us pray:

Holy Father, I ask for the holy spirit to be given for wisdom and understanding as we look at the Gate of the Court Yard. I know you will answer this request because I ask it in Jesus's name. Amen.

The court, as well as the entire sanctuary, is a type (symbol) illustrating the redemptive work of Christ. Uriah Smith states "the antitypical (real) victim (Jesus) must die in the antitypical (real) court, and He died on Calvary in Judea" **Daniel and Revelation** P. 432. Where is the real court of the sanctuary located? It has to be this earth!

NOTE: In the study of the sanctuary there is much symbolism. In order to understand properly what a symbol represents we must look to the word of God for the answer, looking for places where the same symbol is explained. If the explanation of the symbol harmonizes without destroying the meaning of the context, then it will be safe to use. If it does not fit or make sense we must look elsewhere in the Word until a definition of the symbol will fit. That solution to the symbol is safe to use.

Following is a partial list of Bible explanations to help us understand how to interpret sanctuary symbolism. I will not take the time to look up each text listed below because of space, but you may look them up at your leisure. Many of the texts will be used in explanation of the symbol.

Texts with an asterisk (*) indicate the most direct answer to the symbol.

When we see brass, of what are we to consider? *Jer. 6:12; *Job 6:12; *Isa. 48:4; Eze. 22: 18. It is clear that brass represents flesh, Israel, or man in general. Isaiah says that our brow or forehead is brass indicating stubbornness.

Brass also represents endurance, strength, and victory through suffering. Micah 4: 13; *Deut. 33:25.

What does the wood of the sanctuary represent? *Jer. 5:14. Trees are wood also and represent people or Israel (flesh). Isa. 61: 3; 65: 22; Ezek. 20:45-49; Dan. 4:10-26; Ps. 1:3; 37:35; 52:8; 92:12; Jer. 11:16, 17.

Fine white linen. *Rev, 19: 8.

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What does gold represent? *Job 22:25 (margin). “The Almighty **shall be thy defense.**” Strong’s word #H1220 betser (beh’-tser); from #H1219; strictly a clipping, i.e. gold (as dug out): KJV.—gold defense.

What does power represent? Matt. 28:18; Mark 2:10; Luke 5:24; John 17:2.

What does silver represent? Job 22:25 (margin) “silver of power.”

Silver also represents Word of God! Ps. 12:6. The Word of God is the Bible!

Word of God represents Jesus. John 1:1-5, 14.

NUMEROLOGY

The number 5 represents redemption *Numbers 3:4, 5; 18:15, 16.

The number 4 represents Jesus. *Daniel 3:25, or the holy spirit. Ezekiel 1:5, 6, 8, 10, 15-21.

COLORS – THEIR SIGNIFICANCE

White linen represents purity and righteousness. Rev. 19:8, 14.

Scarlet or red represents blood or sacrifice Rev. 19:2, 3; Judges 8:26; Ester 8:15; Jer. 10:9.

THE GATE

Q: Where was the gate located?

A: Exodus 27:13-16. “And the breadth of the court on the east side eastward shall be fifty cubits. The hangings of one side of the gate shall be fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three. And on the other side shall be hangings fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three. And for the gate

of the court shall be an hanging of **twenty cubits, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needle-work:** and their pillars shall be four, and their sockets four.”

NOTE: As the penitent sinner entered the court his back was to the morning sun. This shows God’s abhorrence to any form of sun worship; **pagan rituals or the observances of their days are to have no part in the true worship of God.** Especially so as we are living in the antitypical Day of Atonement while we are to afflict our souls. See Ezekiel chapters 8, & 9.

Q: How wide was the gate?

A. Exodus 27:16. 20 cubits or 30 ft.

Q: In scripture, what is significant about the door, or gate.

A: John 10:9. “I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.” The same word (door) is also translated gate. See Strong’s Concordance word #G2374.

NOTE: Christ is the door or gate to salvation. He is the first encounter on our journey to the throne of the Father. And there is no other name given among men whereby we are saved. Acts 4:12. This door or gate represents Christ! Entering through it is the first step toward salvation, or if you will, the beginning of the journey along the path to the throne of God!

Q: What were the colors of the hangings of the gate?

A: Exodus 27:16. “And for the gate of the court shall be an hanging of twenty cubits, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine

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twined linen, wrought with needlework: and their pillars shall be four, and their sockets four.”

NOTE: Let us take a closer look at the colors that we might think God’s thoughts after Him. The plan of salvation and the work of Christ was to do which is typified in the sanctuary, means too much to God for Him to talk at random, or without serious meaning. Ps. 12:6. The color red or scarlet represents the blood of sacrifice. Rev. 19:13. The color blue represents obedience to the eternal truth of God’s word and obedience to His law in particular. Numbers 15:37-40. As we mix the royal colors red and blue to form purple the most royal color, John 19:2, 3; Judges 8:26; Ester 8:15; Jeremiah 10:7. In the same way, by combining obedience and sacrifice in our lives, royalty is formed within each believing soul. We, very specifically, are transformed into the royal family of God. It fits us to be royalty with Jesus our brother! How wonderful is this reality of son ship to the Father!

Q: How many pillars hold up this royal curtain?

A: Exodus 27:19 last part. “And their pillars shall be four, and their sockets four”

NOTE: The number 4 is very significant in that it represent Jesus Christ. *Daniel 3:25. The number four also represents the holy spirit! Ezekiel 1:5, 6, 8, 10, 15-21. This is reasonable for the spirit to have the same number as Christ when it is understood that the presence of the holy spirit is the presence of Christ after His resurrection.

The number 4 is also prevalent in the 4 coverings of the sanctuary and the 4 pillars separating the holy from the most holy place, the 4 ingredients of the shewbread, the incense,

the anointing oil, and also the fourth commandment, and other places. In each of these instances this number represents Christ. As the number 4 points to Christ, the multiples of four, 12, 24, 48, 60, 72, 12,000, 144,000 are used to indicate special groups of those who manifest the **most perfect Christ like characters.**

Q: Of what were the pillars made?

A: Exodus 17:13-17. “The hangings of one side of the gate shall be fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three. And on the other side shall be hangings fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three. And for the gate of the court shall be an hanging of twenty cubits, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework: and their pillars shall be four, and their sockets four. All the pillars round about the court shall be filleted with silver; their hooks shall be of silver, and their sockets of brass.”

Q: What does brass in the columns represent?

A: Ezekiel 22:18; Job 6:12. “Son of man, the house of Israel is to me become dross: all **they are brass,** and tin, and iron, and lead, in the midst of the furnace; they are even the dross of silver.”

Job 6:112. “Is my strength the strength of stones? Or is **my flesh of brass?**”

NOTE: Brass, in the temple, represents flesh or man! In this case, since the gate, the four columns, and the linen are representations of Christ, so also does the flesh represent Christ’s flesh. “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” John 1:14. That is the same fallen flesh as you and I possess. Let us consider this truth with a few scripture texts.

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Q: Where are we told in scripture that Christ came in the flesh, beside John 1:14?

A: 1st John 4:2, 3; 2nd John 1:7. “Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”

2nd John 1:7. “For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.”

Strong’s word #G4561 “sarx **the** body (as opposed to the soul (or spirit), or as the symbol of what is external, or as the means of kindred, or (by implication) human nature (**with its frailties (physically or morally) and passions**), or (specifically) a human being (as such): - **carnal (-ly, + -ly minded), flesh ([ly])**.” (Parenthesis in original, bold, and underlining, added).

NOTE: Neither text uses the word fallen, but Strong’s definition says: “by implication human nature (with its frailties [physical or morally] and passions), a human being.”

Other ways it has been translated are “Carnal (ly, +ly minded), flesh ([ly]).”

From this it is obvious that Christ possessed fallen nature like us!

In Romans 8:6, the same word (sarx) is translated “carnally minded” the text reads. “For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.” Verses 7, 8 declare “Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that

are in the flesh (sarx) cannot please God.” This, however does not mean that Christ had a reprobate mind for He was also born again at His incarnation. He came with the born again condition at His incarnation. The same word is used in Heb. 9:10. “Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers’ washings, and carnal (sarx) ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation.” So the sanctuary itself teaches the doctrine of fallen nature. And because man has this, “fallen nature” Christ told Nicodemus “you must be born again.” John 3:3 “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

We must understand that even though Jesus was God’s dear Son, He used no divine power in His struggle with sin and Satan that is not readily available to you and me. Christ had emptied Himself of that prerogative at His incarnation. (Philippians. 2:7, 8; John 5:30; 14:10).

Php. 2:7 “But made himself of **no reputation**, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was **made in the likeness of men**: And being found in fashion as a man, **he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.**”

John 5:30 “I can of mine own self **do nothing**: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because **I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.**”

John 14:10. “Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, **he doeth the works.**”

In **Desire of Ages, P.24:2**. We are told:

Comment [VP1]:

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“If we had to bear anything which Jesus did not endure, then upon this point Satan would represent the power of God as insufficient for us. Therefore Jesus was ‘in all points tempted like as we are’ Heb. 4:15. He endured every trial to which we are subject. **And He exercised in His own behalf no power that is not freely offered to us. As a man, He met temptation, and overcame in the strength given Him from God.** ...His life testifies that it is possible for us also to obey the law of God.

Again in **Selected Messages book, P. 278:2.**

“Fallen man, when brought into straightened places, **could not have the power to work miracles on his own behalf, to save himself from pain or anguish, or to give himself victory over his enemies.** It was the purpose of God to test and prove the race, and give them an opportunity to develop character by bringing them **frequently into trying positions to test their faith and confidence in His love and power.**”

Once more **Selected Messages book 1, P. 255:1.**

“And **He used only the weapons justifiable for human beings to use--the word of Him who is mighty in counsel--"It is written"** (Matthew 4:4, 10). {ISM 255.1}. And in the same book, on page 287:2. It says: **"When Jesus left heaven, and there left His power and glory,** Satan exulted. He thought that the Son of God was placed in his power.”

It is evident from these quotes that Christ used none of His divine power or glory in His struggle with Satan. Since Christ is our example, He could not use His own divinity for we have none. Therefore Jesus used only that power that the Father has made available to every

man and woman on planet earth! If it were otherwise how could Jesus be our example in every particular? Let us return to the sanctuary.

Q: What else does brass represent?

A: Micah 4:13, Deuteronomy 33:25.

Micah 4:13. “Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion: for I will make thine horn iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass: and thou shalt beat in pieces many people: and I will consecrate their gain unto the LORD, and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth.”

Deut. 33:25. “Thy shoes shall be iron and brass; and as thy days, so shall thy strength be.”

NOTE: Brass can also represent strength, stability, endurance, and victory through suffering. What better description of Christ in His humanity. An example we must copy.

Q: How broad and high is the gate?

A: Exodus 38:18. Last Part. “The height in the breadth was **five** cubits, answerable to the hangings of the court.”

Q: What significance does the number 5 have in scripture?

A: Numbers 3:47-49; Numbers 18:15, 16. Num. 3:47. “Thou shalt even take five shekels apiece by the poll, after the shekel of the sanctuary shalt thou take them: (the shekel is twenty gerahs:) And thou shalt give the money, wherewith the odd number of them is to be redeemed, unto Aaron and to his sons. And Moses took the redemption money of them that were over and above them that were redeemed by the Levites.”

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NOTE: The number 5 represents redemption, a fitting application of the gate as it represents Christ who is the only salvation for man.

Q: Beside brass, what other metal was used in each column?

A: Exodus 27:10. 17. V. 10. "And the twenty pillars thereof and their twenty sockets shall be of brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets shall be of silver." V. 17. "All the pillars round about the court shall be filleted with silver; their hooks shall be of silver, and their sockets of brass."

NOTE: The hooks were for the holding up of the white linen. Some commentators suggest that a silver bar ran from column to column supported by these hooks. The linen was supported from this bar. Leslie Harding in his book "**WITH JESUS IN HIS SANCTUARY**" on page 24 states, "Silver pins or hooks were fixed at the top of each pillar. From them horizontal silver-covered wooden curtain rods, strangely called "fillets" (literally called "joining"), connected the pillars. The white linen drapes hung from these rods to form the wall of the court (Ex.27:10; 38:17-20). A silver "chaper" formed the cap of each post (Ex. 38:17, 19, 28), in contrast with its copper base."

Q: What does silver represent?

A: Job 22:25 (margin). "Yes the Almighty shall be thy defense, and thou shalt have plenty of silver." (Strength).

NOTE: Silver represents strength!

Q: What else does silver represent?

A; Psalm 12:6. "The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times."

NOTE; Silver also represents the Word of God (Jesus).

Q: To whom does strength or power represent?

A: Matthew 28:18. "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth."

Q: To whom do the pure words of silver, the Bible, represent?"

A: John 1:1-5. 14. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not." Verse 14. "And the **Word was made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

NOTE: Silver is strength or power (words are used interchangeably). Christ declared that He possessed all strength or power (Matt. 28:18) therefore strength represents Christ. Silver also represents the Word of God (Ps. 12:6). The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. So the Word of God represents Jesus, it also represents power of strength.

From this analysis it is evident that the silver of the columns is symbolic of Divine power or the Word of God is not the power that Jesus used when in conflict with Satan! It was by the Word that Jesus defeated Satan. The Word of God and Jesus are the same and are used to represent the power that holds the white linen in place around the sanctuary. And so it is the power of the Son, the Word of God that

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keeps the white robe of Christ's righteousness in place on us. That righteousness replaces our filthy garments of sin.

It has been the purpose of this lesson to look at the gate of the sanctuary that Moses built in the wilderness, and see the connection between the sanctuary of old and the salvation presented in the New Testament. To see from God's picture graph how God would have us understand the connection between the old and the new. And so we begin the journey on the pathway to the throne of God. Let us pray:

Holy Father, we thank you for giving understanding about the gate for entrance to your salvation. Grant that each one will accept your atonement and salvation for each. Please guide and direct our paths in the way of righteousness. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

Your brother in Christ,

Virgil